

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11362

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, TECH, ENRG, JA
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S COURTESY CALL ON STA DIRECTOR GENERAL UNO

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD PAID INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON STA DIRGEN UNO JULY 26. VISIT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF US-JAPAN NUCLEAR REPROCESSING ISSUE AND DELINEATION OF POSSIBLE COURSE OF EVENTS IN NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRIOR TO AMBASSADOR'S COURTESY CALL, EMBASSY HAD CLEAR INDICATIONS THAT STA DIRGEN UNO INTENDED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OCCASION FOR SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON TOKAI MURA PROBLEM. AMBASSADOR OPENED DISCUSSION BY OBSERVING THAT USG WAS IN PROCESS OF IMMINENTLY CREATING A NEW CABINET DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, AND THAT DR. JAMES SCHLESINGER WOULD BECOME HEAD OF THE NEW AGENCY. HE NOTED THAT DR. SCHLESINGER HAD BEEN A LONG-TIME ENERGY ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND HAD BEEN SPENDING HIS TIME ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON DOMESTIC ENERGY MATTERS AND IN CREATING THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT, BOTH ACTIVITIES REQUIRING CONSIDERABLE CONSULTATION WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. HE COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH DR. SCHLESINGER WOULD HAVE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE FUTURE, THE PRESIDENT HAD CALLED UPON AMBASSADOR GERARD SMITH TO HANDLE THE SPECIAL PROBLEM OF NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING PROLIFERATION OF
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS. BECAUSE OF HIS LONG EXPERIENCE IN ARMS CONTROL MATTERS AND HIS CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO THE PRESIDENT AMB. SMITH HAD THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDING, ESSENTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO CABINET RANK, IN CONDUCTING NON-PROLIFERATION NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS THE TOKAI MURA ISSUE AND COULD BE EXPECTED TO COME TO JAPAN FOR THIS PURPOSE AROUND THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST.

3. MINISTER UNO REPLIED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR INFORMATION FROM JAPANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, HAD REPORTED IT TO PM FUKUDA, AND LOOKED FORWARD TO CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH AMB. SMITH.

4. THE AMBASSADOR THEN OUTLINED HIS PERCEPTION OF EVENTS WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. THE USG WAS COMPLETING A REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT BASED ON THE JOINT TECHNICAL STUDY OF REPROCESSING ALTERNATIVES FOR THE TOKAI MURA PLANT AND WOULD HAVE THE REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT BY THE END OF JULY. THE PRESIDENT WOULD THEN MAKE POLICY DETERMINATIONS BASED ON HIS OWN INTENSE PERSONAL INTEREST IN NON-PROLIFERATION, LOOKING FOR A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY COMPROMISE THAT WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT JAPAN'S ENERGY NEEDS AND HIS CONCERNS ABOUT THE USE OF REPROCESSING FOR DESTRUCTIVE PURPOSES. ASSUMING THAT A PRESIDENTIAL DECISION WOULD BE REACHED EARLY IN AUGUST, THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT AMB. SMITH COULD COME TO TOKYO FOR THE THIRD ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BY THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST, GIVING MINISTER UNO THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING THE TOP MAN IN THE U.S. ON NON-PROLIFERATION MATTERS.

5. UNO RESPONDED BY NOTING THAT AS HEAD OF GOJ INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY PROBLEMS, HE
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WOULD LEAD THE JAPANESE DELEGATION AS AMB. SMITH'S COUNTERPART. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HIS PERSONAL THINKING FOLLOWED THE LINE THAT (A) HE WAS IN FULL SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S BASIC OBJECTIVE OF LIMITING THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS; (B) AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS NECESSARY FOR JAPAN TO MAKE USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES; AND (C) HE HELD THE OPINION THAT IT WAS FUNDAMENTAL FOR JAPAN TO MAINTAIN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH U.S. HE HAD CAMPAIGNED FOR LDP IN RECENT ELECTION ON THESE GROUNDS, HE SAID, WHICH COULD NOT BE CARRIED OUT IN MAIN PLANT.

7. AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT DEGREE OF COOPERATION AND FRANKNESS SHOWN BY MR. UNO AND STA PERSONNEL AND REITERATED HIS EXPECTATION THAT ARRIVAL OF AMB. SMITH IN TOKYO WILL LEAD TO PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AT HIGH LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCE. AMBASSADOR AND UNO AGREED THAT THEIR COMMENTS TO PRESS ABOUT THEIR MEETING WOULD BE LIMITED AND CIRCUMSPECT.

8. FYI: SUBSEQUENT TO COURTESY CALL, STA INFORMED EMBASSY THAT UNO TOLD PRESS ONLY THAT BOTH SIDES HAD

AGREED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BRING TOKAI ISSUE TO
CONCLUSION BY END OF AUGUST, THAT AMB. SMITH WOULD BE
COMING TO TOKYO MIDDLE OF AUGUST FOR NEXT ROUND, AND
THAT UNO WOULD HEAD GOJ DELEGATION. END FYI.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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